REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-21 are present in this application. Claims 1-13, 15-18 and 21 are rejected under 35 USC §102(e) over U.S. Patent Publication 2003/0002671 (Inchalik et al.) and claims 14 and 19 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) over U.S. Patent Publication 2003/0002671 (Inchalik et al.) in view of U.S. Patent Publication 2002/0100052 (Daniels). It is noted that the Office Action indicates that claim 19 is rejected under §102(e) but no grounds for such rejection are provided and the Office Action explains that Inchalik et al. does not teach that the control part performs the fifth control as recited in claims 14 and 19.

Claims 1-5, 10, 12, 14, 17, 19 are 21 are amended. Claims 2 and 21 are amended to be consistent with claims 1 and 5, respectively, and claims 10, 12, 14, 17, 19 are amended to make formal changes.

The present invention is directed to recording medium, a recording medium management method and a recording medium management system. In the recording medium, an authentication region has a plurality of RAM bits and a plurality of ROM bits, the RAM bits and the ROM bits being intermingled. In the method, a first data line is obtained from an authentication region, where the authentication region has a plurality of RAM bits and a plurality of ROM bits, the RAM bits and the ROM bits being intermingled in the authentication region. Lastly, the system has a control part that performs a first control to obtain a first data line from an authentication region, where the authentication region has a plurality of RAM bits and a plurality of ROM bits, the RAM bits and the ROM bits being intermingled in the authentication region. A powerful copy protection and an effective playback restriction may be realized.

Turning to the prior art rejections, Inchalik et al. discloses a hybrid optical disc 10 where ROM portion 14 and RAM portion 21 are separate. There is no authentication region

where RAM bits and ROM bits are intermingled. Inchalik therefore does not disclose the recording medium of claim 1 having an authentication region with a plurality of RAM bits and a plurality of ROM bits, the RAM bits and the ROM bits being intermingled; the methods of claims 3 and 4 including a step of obtaining a first data line from an authentication region, where the authentication region has a plurality of RAM bits and a plurality of ROM bits, the RAM bits and the ROM bits being intermingled in the authentication region; or the system of claim 5 having a control part that performs a first control to obtain a first data line from an authentication region, where the authentication region has a plurality of RAM bits and a plurality of ROM bits, the RAM bits and the ROM bits being intermingled in the authentication region. Withdrawal of the §102(e) rejection is respectfully requested.

Inchalik et al. is deficient with respect to the pending claims as discussed in the prior paragraph. Daniels is relied upon for disclosing erasing an encryption key after a predetermined time passes. Even if such disclosure could be combined with Inchalik et al., the deficiencies of Inchalik et al. are not remedied. Withdrawal of the §103(a) rejection is also respectfully requested.

It is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance,

and a favorable decision to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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